THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) As reported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the status of small scale industries (SSI) in terms of number of units registered, estimated employment and fixed investment as on 31.12.2005 is given below:

Year	No.of registered SSI units	Estimated employment generated	Estimated fixed investment (Rs. crore)
2001-02	64420	392492	6387.56
2002-03	65768	400705	6521.22
2003-04	67312	410112	6674.32
2004-05	68930	419970	6834.75
2005-06 (upto 31.12.05)	69888	425807	6929.74

(b) and (c) To safeguard the interests of SSI, including those in Andhra Pradesh, in the face of competition from global players, the Central Government has put in place appropriate trade-defence mechanisms, such as safeguards against surge of imports, anti-dumping measures, etc. In addition, several steps have been taken to help the SSI become competitive, both in India and globally. These, *interalia,* include schemes/programmes for technology upgradation, availability of collateral-free credit up to Rs. 5 lakh, credit guarantee for loans up to Rs. 25 lakh, development of clusters, creating awareness among the SSI by sensitizing them to the emerging challanges of trade liberalization, reimbursement of the cost of obtaining ISO 9000/14001 certification up to Rs. 75,000/-, reimbursement of registration fee up to Rs. 15,000/- for adopting bar coding of products.

Funds for projects run by Harijan Sevak Sangh

1449. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have stopped the funding for projects run by Harijan Sevak Sangh (HSS);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of such projects which are run by Harijan Sewak Sangh and being denied funds;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to close down the school project run by H.S.S. in Barchana, while a decision is yet to be taken on Nachuni;

(e) whether it is a fact that normally Government black-lists the NGOs since it is recognized as a Central Body and not the individual projects; and

(f) the reason behind Government's decision to close down HSS school projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) The grant-in-aid for a residential school at Barchana, Distt. Jaipur, Orissa was stopped due to lack of appropriate facilities. Recently, the school has been re-inspected and in view of improvements, grant-in-aid has been sanctioned. The project of residential school located at Nachuni, Dist. Khurda has also been re-inspected and grant-in aid has been sanctioned.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(0 The grant-in-aid for a residential school at Barchana, Distt. Jaipur, Orissa was stopped due to lack of appropriate facilties.

Changes in Central list of OBCs

1450. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved inclusion and modification of certain castes and communities in the Central list of Other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the details of present castes and communities included in OBC list, State-wise; and

(c) the parameters Government had adopted in preparing this list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN), (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has issued notification for inclusion of castes/communities in the Central List of OBCs for the States/ UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, NCT of Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Pondicherry and Uttar Pradesh. The names of new castes/communities included in the Central List of OBCs, State/Union Territory-wise, is enclosed as Statement (See below).